

22 APR 1948

Dr. Waldo H. Jones
Commander
S. C. Coastal Auxiliary
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Dear Dr. Jones:

The contents of your letter of 16 April 1948 have been noted with interest. However, under Section 102 (d) (3) of the National Security Act of 1947, this Agency is specifically prohibited from exercising any "police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers, or internal security functions".

I have, therefore, taken the liberty of forwarding your letter to the Government Agency primarily concerned with matters of civilian defense.

Your interest and concern in matters of national security are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

cc: Secretary of Defense (Attn.: Office of Civilian Defense)

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21 April 1948

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COASTAL AUXILIARY INCORPORATED
Headquarters
Myrtle Beach, S. C.

16 April 1948

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral USN
U.S. Central Intelligence Service
Washington D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Admiral:

I have watched with great interest the development of Central Intelligence and from a knowledge of the mess we had during the beginning of WW 2, I realize the importance of the same.

I aided in the organization of the Coastal Observer setup of ONI on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and on three occasions upon the death of an observer took up his credentials. Commander Tyson USN was our immediate (Salisbury Md.) superior. I was at the time a Flotillaman in the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and Deputy Chief of Civilian Defence of the County.

This organization here functioned in the same manner and was formerly the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary which has since the war been pretty well fouled up. Therefore we organized under a state charter and are going ahead from there. All the men we feel worth keeping are yet with us. They include every occupation and profession even a sheriff or so.

It had occurred to me that the Central Intelligence might use us in a Coastal Observer setup similar to the ONI one during the War which had a lot lacking in it. By picking one local chief and a chief assistant who might know all the men we could keep a close watch on Communistic activities and all that the US would have to do would be to provide some credentials for the men, give them the Oath of allegiance to the U.S. Government and the State and quiet instructions as to what to look for. They probably would know long before the trouble started when and where it was to be expected. I can guarantee you at least fifty good men in Charleston, Walterboro, Florence, Beaufort SC and fifty here. I mean the class of man who is of undeniable ability and standing. As needed I can find you men within the former or present CGA setup who will function from Maryland to Key West and across the Gulf Coast.

My own officers and men all expect a serious outbreak in this Country and one which unless it is better manned than it has proven in the past, will seriously inconvenience the Government.

My specific suggestion follows. Select in each state a State Coastal Observer Chief and an Assistant and instruct him as to whom to report to and what you are interested in. Under the Chief would be persons selected

for their loyalty to the Nation of any color or race and totally unknown to each other, and not in any way shape or form known, or in the position to know ~~or identify~~ each other except in dire emergency. They would report verbally to the head of the group or in writing unsigned except by a number. They would receive no pay.

For your information the roster strength of the old CGA in South Carolina was approximately as follows scattered over the entire state and more specifically on the Coastal areas.

Beaufort, Walterboro and Charleston	204 men	70 boats
Georgetown, S.C.	102 men	20 boats
Myrtle Beach, Florence, Conway, S.C.	89 men	14 boats

The State Guard from whom some men could be quietly drawn since it is disbanded could furnish other forces and good men ranging from a Deputy Sheriff and the Sheriff to a Captain now Super. Schools.

Sir I wish you would think this over and see if something cannot be worked out of it for the Governments benefit.

Very respectfully yours:-

/signed/

DR. WALDO H. JONES
Commodore
S.C. Coastal Auxiliary
Myrtle Beach, S.C.

No file copies

P.S. For the Admirals information I have personal contacts throughout Cuba, Central and South America and in Colombia especially they are excellent. Native Physicians of two or three separate breeds. MDs. Reformed MDs (like our homeopaths) and Chiropractors and N.S.s. They are all professionally interested in the same things and not inclined to love Communism at all. We have lists of dozens of them in the possession of three of us. Many are closely and personally known. A professional friend in New Orleans who is also an Ex Navy man and Licensed Master Mariner, now a Doctor in New Orleans. He formerly served in the Secret Service as a personal Guard for Pres. Wilson. This man knows hundreds of South American contacts and they can be made without revealing anything at all. However as in my own case his identity should be shielded.

*Cutting from "News & Courier," Charleston, S. C.,
Friday Morning, April 16, 1948, Transcribed with
original letter,
21 April 48.*

W. Reis